

# SEWARDS END PARISH COUNCIL

*Parish Clerk – Tracy Coston*

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## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Swards End Parish Council

held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 at 7.30 pm

in St. James Church Hall, Swards End

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**In the Chair:** Cllr. Howlett

**Present:** Cllrs, Knowles, Ridler, Powell

**Also present:** Cllr Moran (UDC), Cllr Martin Foley (ECC)

**Clerk:** Tracy Coston

**Public:** 2

**82/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs Stokley, Wallhead, Dean

**83/23 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (15 minutes):**

Land East of 39 Radwinter Road: PC resubmitted the objections and included the option about the Article 4.

The draft Local Plan is due out in November 2023.

Footpath to Tesco: A resident would like to get to Saffron Walden on his mobility scooter, but the footpath isn't wide enough and passable.

A conversation about school transport took place.

**84/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive any pecuniary interests relating to items on the agenda: None

**85/23 PLANNING**

**a) Applications for discussion:** None

**b) Decisions:** None

**86/23 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

To approve as a correct record the Parish Council meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2023. The previously circulated minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

**87/23 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:** None

**88/23 HIGHWAYS ISSUES**

**a) Update about highway issues:** The meeting with Highways was attended by Adrian Knowles. Sarah Tomlin's presentation will be sent to Clerk's for distribution. The greatest frustration was the lack of correspondence, transparency. Requests are ranked from S1 – S4. S1 being urgent works. The PC have asked Cllr Foley about the criteria for S1-S4 works.

**b) Update about verge cutting:** The new verge contractor is David Lowe. The contractor has invoiced £ 507.60 for a single cut. The PC receive a grant of £ 1,020.09 from ECC. Clerk to find how much he will cost for a full width cut.

**c) Update about cutting of path down Pounce Hill:** The original path would have been a metre wide and the path has been made narrower over the years. Martin Foley is meeting with his 'Highway Buddy', Daniel Jackson to discuss this month.

Martin Foley will also investigate at ECC about the byway from Cole End Lane to Saffron Walden.

**89/23 WEBSITE**

**a) Progress report:** Information about the Village Hall booking system is required before the website can move on forward.

**90/23 VILLAGE GREEN**

**a) Replacement play equipment and applying ECC and UDC grants:** The PC agreed to apply for the UDC Community grant to apply for £ 3,500 towards the cost of a new piece of equipment and the ECC Community Initiatives fund to fund the refurbishment of the existing equipment at the play area.

The PC decided not the spray the clover in the play area due to ecological reasons.

**b) Community orchard trees:** Clerk to check if the sleeves have been put on by Kevin Newman.

**c) Goal sleeve lids:** Clerk to check if Kelvin Newman has installed the sleeve lids.

**d) Replacement village sign proposal:** The Village sign at the Village Hall is needing refurbishment. The PC will discuss when the quotes are available.

**91/23 CORRESPONDENCE:** All circulated.

**92/23 EX-AGENDA**

➤ **District Councillors Report:** The members grant is available from UDC. The draft Local Plan will be out in November 2023. The call in for planning applications. 4 weeks for a planning application to be called in. 50% recruitment at present. Devolution will impact on Parish Councils and Unitary authorities. Consultation in the summer of next year. Devolving powers from Central Government. Document on ECC website. Special measures are still in place with planning.

➤ **County Councillors Report:** Highways have been discussed in public participation. A report was sent by Cllr Foley for distribution.

**93/23 FINANCE**

**RECEIPTS**

UDC Coronation grant £ 700.00

**Total Receipts £ 700.00**

**PAYMENTS**

D/P Tracy Coston July Payment £ 182.55

D/P C W Low & Son Ltd (Verges) £ 507.60

**Total £ 690.15**

a) The noticeboard has been ordered for delivery.

**94/2 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**The date of the Parish Council meeting is Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 at 7.30pm in St. James Church Hall.**

The meeting ended at 9.25 pm

**Signed (Chair)**

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**Date**

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